

### ABSTRACT

A system and method for hierarchically representing configuration items are described herein. In one embodiment, the method includes receiving a request to modify one or more configuration items, wherein the request is associated with a direct manipulation GUI command, wherein the configuration items are associated with configuration item icons, and wherein the configuration items are stored in a configuration management system repository. The method further includes modifying the one or more configuration items, wherein the modifying includes modifying high-level representations of the one or more configuration items. The method further includes generating low-level representations of the one or more configuration items, and exporting the low-level representations to a database.